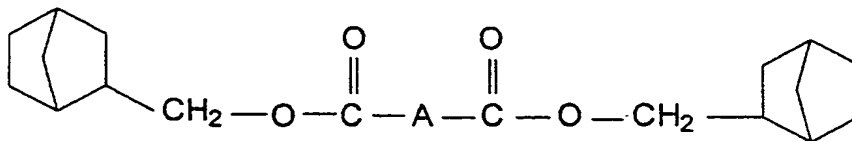


Patent claims

1. A carboxylic ester of the formula

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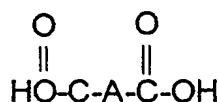
where A is $-(CH_2)_x-$, where $x =$ from 1 to 10.

2. The carboxylic ester as claimed in claim 1, wherein x is 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, or 10.

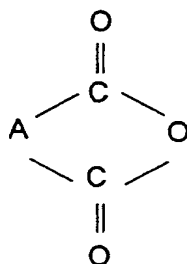
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3. A process for preparing the carboxylic esters as claimed in claim 1 via reaction of 2-hydroxymethylnorbornane with dicarboxylic acids of the formula

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or with their anhydrides of the formula



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where A is as defined in claim 1, in the presence of an entrainer for removal, in the form of an azeotropic mixture, of the water formed during the course of the reaction, and, where appropriate, in the presence of a catalyst, removal of excess and unconverted starting materials, treatment with an alkaline reagent for removal of acidic constituents, and then, where appropriate, steam distillation, followed by drying and/or fractional distillation.

4. The use of the carboxylic esters as claimed in claim 1 as lubricants or plasticizers for thermoplastics.